

My father is a retired soldier from the U.S. Army and my mother is a naturalized American Citizen from the Philippines. Growing up in a mixed American-Filipino household meant that I often spent time in two different worlds. I have lots of fond memories gorging myself on Filipino foods such as adobo, lumpia, pancit and halo-halo, but I also love a good ol' Fourth of July BBQ! I spent my childhood enjoying Disney cartoons like many of my friends, but also laughing at Filipino comedy movies with my mother; the funny thing is that I cannot speak Tagalog but the humor and jokes carried through the language barrier. These experiences have really shaped my worldview and given me a perspective that values diversity.

While living overseas, I also witnessed first-hand that many in the world do not experience the same opportunity that we are given here in the United States. There is a level of hardship in the world that many will never see or understand, and seeing this really helped me appreciate what we have here at home. However, what we have did not manifest out of thin air. It is the result of people working hard and working together, people that did not quit no matter how the odds were stacked against them; such as when Larry Itliong worked with Cesar Chavez to unite Filipino and Mexican farmworkers to fight for better working conditions.

I firmly believe that diversity brings unique experiences and perspectives to the table, and that diversity of thought leads to innovative solutions to problems. This frame of mind has served me well while growing up in two worlds, and it serves me well working at the International Boundary and Water Commission. I celebrate my multicultural heritage by endeavoring to live a life that celebrates diversity and creates a culture where everyone has an equal chance to succeed.



DELBERT G. HUMBERSON
HYDROLOGIST

